



27th Annual AWARD CEREMONY



NOVEMBER 13, 2024



Order of Events

National Anthem

Marketta Robinson
U.S. Postal Service OIG

Welcoming Remarks

The Honorable Jason Miller
CIGIE Executive Chairperson
Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget

Opening Remarks

The Honorable Mark Lee Greenblatt
CIGIE Chairperson
Inspector General, Department of the Interior

Awards Presentations and Videos

CIGIE Executive Council

Keynote Discussion

**CIGIE Chairperson Mark Lee Greenblatt and
Television Host/Producer Dan Abrams**

Awards Presentations and Videos Continued

CIGIE Executive Council

Closing Remarks

Tammy L. Hull
CIGIE Vice Chairperson
Inspector General, U.S. Postal Service



Jason Miller



Jason Miller
CIGIE Executive Chairperson

Jason Miller is the Deputy Director for Management at the Office of Management and Budget where he serves as the Federal Government's chief operating officer. In this role, he coordinates Government-wide management initiatives to protect, strengthen, and empower the Federal workforce, and ensure a more equitable, effective, and accountable Federal Government that delivers results for all Americans. Toward these goals, Mr. Miller leads the development and implementation of the President's Management Agenda as Chair of the President's Management Council.

Mr. Miller also is carrying out the President's commitment to deliver prosperity, security, and opportunity to all Americans – including through implementation of the American Rescue Plan to help families and businesses recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and by harnessing the power of Federal procurement to support workers and manufacturers through the Made in America Initiative.

Most recently, Mr. Miller led the U.S. Trade Representative agency review team during the Biden-Harris transition and prior to that he was the Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Washington Partnership, a civic alliance of employers in the Capital Region focused on issues of regional inclusive economic growth and prosperity that included building and operating a more reliable and accessible transportation system; driving improved digital skills workforce through enhanced programs at the K-12, community college, and undergraduate levels; and improving housing affordability.

Previously, Mr. Miller served in the Obama-Biden White House as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of the National Economic Council – leading the Administration's economic policy development and coordination related to manufacturing and innovation, transportation and infrastructure, energy, entrepreneurship, and Puerto Rico.

Prior to the Obama-Biden Administration, Mr. Miller was a management consultant with the Boston Consulting Group in San Francisco and with Marakon Associates in Chicago, where he advised large organizations across industries on strategic, financial, and organizational issues. Mr. Miller received a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, a M.B.A. from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, and a M.P.A. from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Mr. Miller currently resides with his wife and three children in Maryland.

Mark Lee Greenblatt



Mark Lee Greenblatt
CIGIE Chairperson

The Honorable Mark Lee Greenblatt began his tenure as the Inspector General for the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) on August 26, 2019, after being confirmed by the U.S. Senate. As the Inspector General, Mr. Greenblatt leads a nationwide workforce of investigators, auditors, evaluators, attorneys, and support staff. Their mission is to provide independent oversight to promote accountability, integrity, economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within the DOI. Mr. Greenblatt is the senior official responsible for providing oversight of the programs and operations of the DOI, which has more than 70,000 employees and a range of diverse programs, including roughly \$10 billion in grants and contracts, \$20 billion in natural resource revenues, Federal trust responsibilities to 574 federally recognized Indian Tribes and Alaska Native villages, stewardship of 20 percent of the Nation's lands, and management of lands, subsurface rights, and offshore areas that produce approximately 17 percent of the Nation's energy.

In December 2022, Mr. Greenblatt was elected by the membership of the 74 Federal inspectors general to serve as the Chair of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE). Mr. Greenblatt's 2-year term as Chair began on January 1, 2023. In this role, he leads the Inspector General community's mission to combat fraud, waste, and mismanagement. From January 2021 to December 2022, Mr. Greenblatt served as the CIGIE Vice Chair.

Mr. Greenblatt has been in the Federal oversight community since 2003 as part of the legislative and executive branches. Before becoming the DOI Inspector General, he served as the executive director of CIGIE. He previously held leadership roles at the U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. Mr. Greenblatt also served as an investigative counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice OIG. Over the course of his Federal career, he has received several awards, including a CIGIE award for excellence, U.S. Department of Commerce gold medal and bronze medals, and a U.S. Department of Justice OIG distinguished service award.

Mr. Greenblatt served as a Federal law clerk, was a litigator at two large, international law firms, and is a published author.

Mr. Greenblatt graduated from Columbia University School of Law, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar, and earned his undergraduate degree from Duke University. He also completed the Senior Managers in Government Fellowship at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Tammy L. Hull



Tammy L. Hull
CIGIE Vice Chairperson

Tammy Hull serves as the Vice Chairperson of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE). CIGIE Chairperson Mark L. Greenblatt appointed Ms. Hull to the position in January 2023.

The Governors of the U.S. Postal Service appointed Ms. Hull as the third Inspector General of the U.S. Postal Service on November 29, 2018. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Hull served as the Acting Inspector General for the U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General (OIG) since February 2016. She also served as the Deputy Inspector General from November 2011 to February 2016. In years prior, Ms. Hull served as the Assistant Inspector General for Audit. Ms. Hull joined the U.S. Postal Service OIG in November 2005 as an Audit Director.

Ms. Hull started her government career at the Internal Revenue Service Inspection Service and transitioned with them as a part of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA), established in early 1999. During her career at TIGTA, she was an audit manager in Dallas, TX for several years before moving to Washington, DC as the Director of the Office of Management and Policy.

Ms. Hull holds a Bachelor of Accounting and Business Administration degree from W. J. Bryan College in Dayton, TN and is a Certified Public Accountant.

Dan Abrams



Dan Abrams

Dan Abrams is the CEO and Founder of Abrams Media, host of Dan Abrams Live on NewsNation, host of On Patrol: Live on Reelz, Chief Legal Affairs Correspondent for ABC News, host of SiriusXM radio's The Dan Abrams Show: "Where Politics Meets The Law," and host and executive producer of Court Cam and Taking the Stand on A&E Network. He is also the author of numerous New York Times bestselling books on overlooked trials in history. Abrams Media currently includes Mediaite.com, The Law&Crime Network and LawandCrime.com, and WhiskeyRaiders.com.

Dan has appeared as a guest on all three network late night talk shows, CBS' The Late Show With Stephen Colbert, NBC's The Tonight Show and ABC's Jimmy Kimmel Live!, as well as "Real Time with Bill Maher" on HBO.



27th Annual Award Ceremony

November 13, 2024

Awards

Glenn/Roth Award for Exemplary Service

Senators John Glenn and William V. Roth, Jr., served together as the Chairman and Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs for many years, often trading positions when party control of the Senate changed. After the passage of the Inspector General Act of 1978, both Senators became committed supporters of the IG community and were instrumental in seeing the Act expanded in 1988.

In 2003, as part of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the IG Act's enactment, CIGIE's predecessor organizations established this award in honor of Senator Glenn's and Senator Roth's commitment to independent, objective, and transparent oversight.

Today, CIGIE continues this tradition by awarding the Glenn/Roth Exemplary Service Award to an individual or group whose efforts enhance Congress' ability to pass valuable legislation and/or conduct meaningful oversight of Government programs.

U.S. Department of Defense

Special Inspector General for Operation Atlantic Resolve (SIG-OAR) Interagency Team



DOD OIG

Meer Alam
Mohamoud Ali
Christina Brummitt
Monica Carter
Michelle Cerna
Todd Cyril
Richard Demler
Katrin Elliott
Andrew Fechhelm
Charles Fones
John Gartland
Marilyn Gates-Davis
Latasha Givens
Paul Glenn
Kenneth Kops
William Leitheiser
Haider Mullick
Rachel Neben
Dahnelle Payson
Giormary Peluyera
Justin Perreault
Dennis Petersen

Lyall Rasnick
Scott Ridge
Greg Romero
Victor Sanguaboon
Willie Spivey
James Trost
Jamie Vandesteene
William Vannurden
John Wagner
Kenneth Ward
Christopher Westhoff
Jana Weston
J. Scott Whitaker
Tim Wimette
Warren Worth

State OIG

Alison Anzalone
David (Sam) Bernet
Karen Burchard
Caitlin Etienne
William Fleeson
Meg Hardy

Ryan Holden
Nicole Mattis
Patrick Sampson
Hillel Weinberg

USAID OIG

Lyudmila "Luda" Cardoso
Mark Day
Adam Kaplan
Jillisa Milner
Ashley Obando
Bill Schwinn
Laura Scott
Kaylan Swartz

PRAC

Marcos Contreras
Jeanine Keay
Alice Siempelkamp

GAO

Ellen Arnold
Kathryn Boldus

In recognition of outstanding joint contributions in launching www.UkraineOversight.gov and issuing the first statutorily required quarterly report of the U.S. whole-of-government response to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

Since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the U.S. Government has been the largest contributor of assistance, with more than \$113 billion appropriated across the U.S. Government. With these funds, the U.S. Government provided security, humanitarian, and economic assistance to help Ukraine defend against Russia's invasion, ensure the Ukrainian government can function effectively during the war, and support the people of Ukraine as they endure daily attacks from Russian forces.

On September 13, 2023, the Secretary of Defense announced the commencement of Operation Atlantic Resolve (OAR) as an overseas contingency operation, in accordance with 10 U.S.C. § 113(o). Following this announcement, the Department of Defense (DoD) IG was named Lead IG for OAR by the Chair of the CIGIE. In section 1250B of the FY 2024 National Defense Authorization Act, Congress re-designated the Lead IG as the Special Inspector General for OAR with additional responsibilities and reporting requirements to ensure whole-of-government oversight and transparency of this multifaceted and resource-intensive effort, including the publication of an unclassified quarterly report on a publicly available website.

Led by the DoD OIG, the multidisciplinary team members of the SIG OAR agencies (DoD, State, and USAID OIGs), the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC) website team, planned, developed, and launched www.UkraineOversight.gov. Additionally, the SIG OAR agencies authored the first statutorily required quarterly report to Congress for the operation.

Awards for Excellence | Inspections

U.S. Department of Education

FSA's Outreach to Individuals in Underserved Communities Inspection Team

Jia En Huang
Mari Farthing
Myra Hamilton
Doral Hill

Sirintra Juntaralux
Ruby Len
Jeffrey Nekrasz
Akilah Provost

Kristin Reinhart
Francisco Scharschmidt

In recognition of exceptional inspection efforts that identified significant opportunities for the U.S. Department of Education to improve equity and access to Federal student aid for students in underserved and socio-economically challenged communities.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Team for Greater Compliance with Policies Needed Related to the Management of Emergent Care for Patients Presenting with Acute Sexual Assault

Jennifer Baptiste
Karen Berthiaume
Jennifer Broach
Elizabeth Bullock
Felicia Burke
Jennifer Christensen

Limin Clegg
Kate Feingold
Jonathan Ginsberg
Eileen Keenan
Lori Lohar
Aja Parchman

Marie Parry
Natalie Sadow
Elizabeth Winter

In recognition of remarkable efforts to evaluate compliance with Veterans Health Administration policy on the management of emergent care needs of patients presenting with acute sexual assault.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Review of Transition of Care for Service Members with Opioid Use Disorder

Marsha Alishahi
Felicia Burke
Limin Clegg
Danette Johnson

Vanessa Masullo
Nicole Maxey
Christine Micek
Jill Murray

Lola Savatgy
Laura Tovar
Tammra Wood

In recognition of impactful work that identified deficiencies in documentation of opioid use disorder for service members transitioning from the DoD to VHA, which will lead to improved care for these vulnerable veterans.

Awards for Excellence | Evaluations

U.S. Department of Defense

Ukraine Equipment Transportation and Accountability Group

Kevin Acosta	Andrew Fechhelm	Jeffrey Meyers
Maike Buckingham	Michael Gigas	Morsel Mohammad Osman
Julian Carroll	Ashley Harrington	Terrence Parker
Monica Carter	Joseph Ingignoli	Norman Printer
Eric Cherry	William Johnson	Gregory Romero
Brian Chong	Angelina Johnston	Charles Royce
Derwin Cooper	Emil Kabban	Matthew Separa
Rodolfo Delacruz	Kevin McCormick	Sean Velarides
Jefferson DuBinok	Rodney McGhee	Jonathan Walker

In recognition of the Ukraine Equipment Transportation and Accountability Group for its distinguished efforts in completing six evaluations related to transportation, safety, security, and accountability of U.S. defense articles provided to Ukraine.

U.S. Department of Defense

DoD OIG's Enhanced End-Use Monitoring Evaluation Oversight Team

Topaz Blair	Jacob Czarnecki	Brenda Reese
Maike Buckingham	Jefferson DuBinok	Tirtha Timsina
Monica Carter	David Edwards	Lydette Torres-Jusino
Eric Cherry	Dahnelle Payson	William Vickers
Derwin Cooper	Norman Printer	

In recognition of the EEUM Oversight Team for its distinguished efforts and service to the public interest in its evaluation of the Department of Defense implementation of enhanced end-use monitoring of defense articles transferred to Ukraine.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

The FDIC's Examination of Government-Guaranteed Loans Evaluation Team

Usman Abbasi	Rigene Mabry	Shelley Shepherd
Katie Boutwell	Melissa Mulhollen	Sharon Tushin
Daniel Craven	Michael Reed	Ryan Wasilick
Cynthia Hogue	Thomas Ritz	
Luke Itnyre	Caitlin Savino	

In recognition of effecting significant change through an evaluation of the FDIC's Examination of Government-Guaranteed Loans, resulting in 19 recommendations to improve FDIC supervision and prompting \$7 million in civil money penalties and restitution.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

FDIC Strategies Related to Crypto-Asset Risks Evaluation Team

Lueth Akuak	Lisa Price	Sharon Tushin
Catherine Gao	Caitlin Savino	Ryan Wasilick
Jane Kim	YeYe Shen	
Rigene Mabry	Matt Simber	

In recognition of a comprehensive evaluation of crypto-asset risks, resulting in significant improvements to the FDIC's assessment of the risks posed by crypto assets to the banking sector and the FDIC's supervision of banks engaged in crypto activities.

Federal Reserve Board & Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Evaluation of the Design and Effectiveness of the FOMC's Investment and Trading Rules

Margaret An	Melissa Dorow	Bladen Vickery
Karlee Bell	Laura Shakarji	

In recognition of significant contributions to enhance the Federal Open Market Committee's investment and trading rules and the Federal Reserve System's approach to monitoring personal investment and trading activities for potential conflicts of interest.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Sponsor Screening & Follow-up to Protect Unaccompanied Children

Laura Canfield	Haley Lubeck	Dana Squires
Joe Chiarenzelli	Diana Merelman	Mollee Sultani
Caroline Filbrun	Christina Price	Jessica Swanstrom
Andrea Hoffstetter	Melissa Rumley	Jordan Swoyer
Althea Hosein	Sarah Smith	Abbi Warmker
Melissa Louis	Catherine Spivey	Brian Whitley

In recognition of the HHS-OIG evaluation team's outstanding work to protect unaccompanied children by strengthening sponsor screening and follow-up practices.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Unannounced Inspection Team

Josh Bradley	Benjamin Diamond	John Shiffer
Adam Brown	Gwen Schrade	Becky Sneed
Brett Cheney	Brittany Scott	

In recognition of the DHS OIG Inspections and Evaluations inspections of 4 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facilities resulting in 28 recommendations improving detainee conditions and the identification of over \$52 million ICE paid for.

U.S. Department of the Interior

Land and Water Conservation Fund State Side Program Evaluation Team

Mariusz Cieplinski
Stacey Crouser

Dan Glassick
Anna Leslie

Deanna Masterson
Pat O'Boyle

In recognition of the Team's exemplary efforts in identifying areas where the National Park Service should increase its monitoring and oversight to protect the integrity and recreational value of the Land and Water Conservation Fund State Side Program.

U.S. Department of Justice

Evaluation of Issues Surrounding Inmate Deaths in Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Institutions

EEOC
Ted An

DOJ OIG
Lincoln Berget
Jan Davis Hamm

Michael Pannone
Alexander Parker

In recognition of exemplary work in comprehensively examining the circumstances surrounding inmate deaths at BOP institutions and identifying actions that the BOP should take to address risk factors that contribute to inmate deaths.

National Archives and Records Administration

National Personnel Record Center Evaluation Team

William Brown

Andrew Clements

Teresa Rogers

In recognition of NARA OIG auditors for their exceptional achievement in completing the Evaluation of Records Request Backlog at the National Personnel Records Center; helping make critical improvement in services for 18.5 million living veterans.

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Central States' Team

Jensen Chan
Richard McCaffery
Kelly Migliore

John Seger
Ruth Walk
Charles Yao

Yolanda Young

In recognition of excellence for identifying millions of dollars of overpayments in the PBGC's SFA program, resulting in process changes for the remaining applications and enabling the Justice Department to recover \$127 million overpaid to a plan.

Tennessee Valley Authority

Hazardous Chemical Evaluations Team

Sam Ruble

Trey Simms

In recognition of the auditors' achievement in identifying hazardous chemicals that had not been adequately identified or communicated to employees.

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration

Safeguarding Federal Tax Information Team

John da Cruz	Isaac Huaman	Frank O'Connor
James Douglas	Malissa Livingston	
Angelica Garred	Taylor McDonald	

In recognition of TIGTA's evaluation team for quickly providing information to Congress and other stakeholders regarding the IRS's efforts to secure access to its sensitive systems and safeguard federal tax information after a massive data leak.

U.S. Postal Service

Promoting the Health of Future USPS Retirement Fund Returns

John Althen	Priscilla Lee	Joy Sanzone
Tristan Dreisbach	David Neu	

In recognition of the team's groundbreaking research to promote the financial sustainability of USPS retirement funding.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VA Electronic Health Record Modernization Oversight Teams

Kaitlin Archuleta	Ariel Drobnes	Amber Singh
Rachelle Biddles	Tabitha Eden	Zaire Smith
Daniel Blodgett	Adam Herman	Michael Soybel
Jason Boyd	Charles Hoskinson	Michael Stack
Daphne Brantley	Terri Julian	Dana Sullivan
Trang Bui	Alan Mallinger	Erica Taylor
Joseph Caiati	Erin Mangano	Kelli Toure
Tina Cha	Sarah Reading	Andy Waghorn

In recognition of alerting Congress, VA, and veterans to significant problems with VA's new multibillion-dollar health record system that has put patients and healthcare operations at risk, including issues with accessing records for benefit claims.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Team for Ensuring Improved Oversight of Disability Benefits Questionnaires Processing and Reducing Fraud Risk

Brandon Barnes	Kyle Flannery	Lisa Van Haeren
Christopher Beltz	Tyler Hargreaves	Ruoqing Wang-Cendejas
Raymond Byrnes	Darryl Joe	
Kendal Ferguson	Allison Tarmann	

In recognition of remarkable efforts that determined VBA's public disability benefits questionnaires posed a significant risk of fraud due to a lack of effective controls.

Award for Individual Accomplishment

Shortly after CIGIE's creation by the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008, CIGIE's new leadership established this award to specifically recognize sustained contributions by an individual or outstanding leadership of a project or event that contributes significantly to CIGIE's mission.



Christian Schrank
HHS OIG

Department of Health & Human Services OIG

Christian Schrank

Deputy Inspector General for Investigations

In recognition of consistent and substantial contributions to the CIGIE community's law enforcement efforts through his leadership of the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Working Group.

HHS OIG DIGI Schrank is an active and inspirational leader within the Inspector General and CIGIE communities. As the Co-Chair of the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Working Group (AIGI Working Group) within CIGIE's Investigations Committee, DIGI Schrank has significantly furthered the committee's contributions to advising, educating, and shaping the Inspector General community's commitment to conducting criminal investigations with thoroughness, completeness, and preserving protections.

Within HHS-OIG, DIGI Schrank has wide-ranging and tremendous responsibilities, as he provides executive leadership to the Office of Investigations workforce of nearly 600 professionals, including criminal investigators, general investigators, analysts, forensic examiners, and administrative staff. These teams combine proactive data analytics, field intelligence, and state-of-the-art investigative techniques to conduct criminal, civil and administrative investigations of fraud and misconduct related to HHS programs, operations, and enrollees. Investigations often lead to criminal convictions, administrative sanctions, or civil monetary penalties.

DIGI Schrank is a trusted CIGIE point of contact on proposed changes to policies, including legislative, regulatory, and other authorities. DIGI Schrank brings a nuts-and-bolts perspective to conversations with decisionmakers as he outlines practical limitations, including budgetary and personnel-related issues, to proposed revisions. While members of the CIGIE community are united in wanting to address fraud and abuse, stark real-world limitations must be acknowledged and considered. Navigating conversations about this delicate balance requires an attendant level of sensitivity, and DIGI Schrank is an expert at incorporating a thoughtful perspective into tough conversations to avoid unintended consequences on the already resource strapped OIG community. By strategically informing decisionmakers of practical considerations, DIGI Schrank helps others understand the wider view and avoids creating inconsistencies between legal authorities and available resources.

Awards for Excellence | Investigations

U.S. Agency for International Development

USAID OIG Kyiv Investigations Office Team

Zachary Baumgart	Kathrina James	Bina Sheladia
Mark Day	Pimolrat (Kate) Karin	Shazia Zahid
Miguel Guardian	Jeremy Kennon	
Rameeth Hundle	Sarah Larson	

In recognition of tireless efforts and dedication to establishing USAID OIG's new office in Kyiv, Ukraine, despite the challenges associated with operating in a country at war.

Amtrak (National Railroad Passenger Corporation)

United States of America v. Colby Frazier and Korey Wise

Amtrak OIG Jessica Bunce Craig Moldowan Joseph O'Keefe Charles Schwarz Brittany Rumble Michael Runge	U.S. Secret Service Trae Bynum Steve Morrow Solomon Smith Steven Williams	Alachua Police Department Jacob Eady Jason Moses
Amtrak Police Department Douglas Balk Nicholas Ingram Bethany Tiernan	U.S. Marshals Service Alex Clairmont John D. Osborn	EPA-CID Todd Maniscalki
		DOJ Terri Marinari

In recognition of the dedication and skill of the Wise/Frazier investigative team whose efforts resulted in the incarceration of a criminal duo, the return of ill-gotten funds, and elimination of a key tool used by criminals to exploit at-risk youth.

U.S. Department of Defense

The Medicine Shoppe Investigative Team

DOD OIG Eleanor Gailey Marisela Nash	Gloria Smaine Kimberly Sweet	DOJ Mark Pletcher
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In recognition of an outstanding investigation into a multi-level marketing scheme which billed the TRI-CARE program for over \$65 million in fraudulent compounded prescriptions.

U.S. Department of Education

Stanley Student Aid Fraud Investigative Team

Education OIG

Victoria Cressman
Nicole Dotson
Drake Halpern
Dennis Jones

DOD OIG

Christopher Chung
Tyler Cruse
Crystal Daniel
Charles Matheson

DHS

Mike Tarantino

Prince George's, MD Police Department

Andrea Sheehan

DOJ

Peter Cooch
Craig Fansler

In recognition of exemplary efforts resulting in the prosecution of a former Financial Aid Advisor, Federal employee, and pastor as the ringleader of a \$6.7 million Federal student aid fraud scheme targeting 8 universities and over 80 students.

U.S. Department of Energy

Nuclear Facility Timecard Fraud Investigation Team

Energy OIG

Nick Acker
Philip Beckett
Jonathan Black
James Breckenridge
Stephanie Caraher
Joseph Davila
Frank Ellison
Travis Farris
Ryan Fussell

Louie Gomez

Vic Landa
Christina McCardell
Tyler Menard
Adam Mitchell
Anthony Montoya
Marc Santana
Amy Sirignano
Ted Studerus
Frieda Zimmerman

DOJ

Brandon Burkart
Kenneth Coffin
Michael McCarthy
Brian Stoltz
Sean Taylor
Don Williamson
Frieda Zimmerman

In recognition of exceptional investigative efforts to identify over \$26 million worth of falsified time and attendance records and recover funds from a Department of Energy prime contractor.

Environmental Protection Agency

SkyeTec Investigation Team

EPA OIG

Meg Ariotti
Paul Brezinski
Joey Campbell
George Golliday

Mike Navratil

Marc Perez
Guang Song

DOJ

Lindsay Griffin
Charles Harden
Soma Nwokolo
Don Williamson

In recognition of the outstanding investigative efforts by the SkyeTec Investigation Team to safeguard the integrity of, and confidence in, EPA's Energy Star Program.

Federal Communications Commission

FCC OIG Investigative and Data Analytics Team

Christopher Howell-Little

Elliot Lowenstein

Eric Phelps

In recognition of an innovative investigative and analytics team that used data to identify significant fraud in a benefit program and issued a timely advisory to deter misconduct, resulting in significant repayments and additional internal controls.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Investigation Involving the Failure of First NBC Bank, New Orleans, Louisiana

FDIC OIG

Bobby Hood

Joseph Melle

FBI

Krista Bradford

Catherine Crutchfield

Yvonne Evans

FRB OIG

Christopher Orlando

DOJ

Josephine Beninati

Andre Laborde

Ryan McLaren

Danielle Mitchum

Nicholas Moses

Matthew Payne

Deborah Stoddard

Elaine Waguespack

In recognition of excellence in an investigation involving the failure of First NBC Bank, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Federal Housing Finance Agency

Texas Star Services Investigation Team

FHFA OIG

Rodney Connor

DHS

Derek Matthews

TIGTA

Robert Williams

SBA OIG

Juan Fernandez

FDIC OIG

Jonathan Heydon

DOJ

Louis Manzo

Katherine McCarthy

Rodolfo Ramirez

Kristine Rollinson

Spencer Ryan

Della Sentilles

In recognition of remarkable investigative efforts leading to the successful prosecution of a multi-million-dollar, multi-defendant Paycheck Protection Program Recruitment Fraud Scheme, and successful efforts to identify and recover ill-gotten gains.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Border Corruption Investigation Team

Joaquin Alvarez

Crystal Diaz

Sandra Haller

Dawn Monahan

In recognition of a DHS OIG investigation of an unknown corrupt Border Patrol Agent that resulted in the identification, indictment and conviction of a BPA and two co-conspirators.

U.S. Department of Justice

Investigative Team Related to the BOP’s Custody, Care, and Supervision of Jeffrey Epstein

Sandra Barnes
Lyeson Daniel

Ryan Geach
H. Jeremy Horne

Dennis Matulewicz, Jr.

In recognition of outstanding achievement in the investigation and review of the Federal Bureau of Prisons’ custody, care, and supervision of Jeffrey Epstein, resulting in findings of misconduct, performance failure, and poor judgement.

U.S. Department of Labor

DOJ Pandemic Fraud Strike Force Inception Team

Labor OIG

Brooks Abramson
Megan Howell
Andrew Kearney
Adam Martin
Christopher Silvern

DHS OIG

Matthew Gurrola
André Miller
Ramon Padilla

Postal Service

Daniel Goolsby

DOJ

Mark Aveis
Michael Galdo
Harry Gruber
Martha Paluch
Lauren Repole
Rosanne Rust
P.H. (Hank) Twehues
David Weiser
Elizabeth Young

SBA OIG

Michelle Blank
Samuel Bronson

In recognition of exemplary dedication to the U.S. DOJ’s Pandemic Strike Force Teams. Their leadership and support staff demonstrated unparalleled commitment to investigative excellence in pursuing the most egregious cases of pandemic fraud.

Office of Personnel Management

Investigation Trials and “Fibrillations”

OPM OIG

Yvette Chang-Fisher
Marysol Mateo
Antonio Moore
Sarah Wahl

Anne Petersen

Lisa Veigel

DCIS

Robert Lerario

VA OIG

Kevin Aguilar
Katharine Brown
Ken Cooley
Vassili Khristoforov
Roy LaFollette
Gerard “Jerry” Poto
Alyssa Witten

HHS OIG

Robert Basile
Sarah Kessler

In recognition of the OPM, HHS, DCIS, and VA OIGs’ joint investigation into alleged violations of the False Claims Act that resulted in a \$44.875 million settlement to resolve claims of improper reviews of cardiac monitor data by foreign workers.

Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction

SIGAR Rahmani Family Investigation Team

Harvey Barlow
Michael J. Bradley

Jessica Bretton
Scott M. Hahn

Timothy Kelly

In recognition of outstanding performance by SIGAR's investigators for exemplary teamwork in a multi-year investigation resulting in OFAC imposing sanctions on the Rahmani family and associated entities for their involvement in widespread corruption.

Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery

Bull Run Capital Investments, LLC

SIGPR

Nenette Day
Neil Hammerstrom

FBI

Emily Belin
Marc Hess

DOJ

Peter Castiglione
Russell Carlberg
Peter Melaragni
Kathleen Robeson
Kristin Starr

In recognition of an outstanding collaboration by a multidisciplinary investigative team of criminal investigators, financial analysts, and attorneys resulting in the prosecution of Bennie Magee, Michael Gilcher, and Joseph Slaiby.

U.S. Department of State

Montage Construction Contract Fraud Investigative Team

State OIG

Danielle Desfosses
Monique Dopwell
Nicole Finner
Shawn McKee
Julieta Munoz
Cindy Nelson

Linette Romer
Leonard Sergent
James Spalding
Christopher Swenson
Hanlin Wong
Peter Yeager

IRS-CI

Miguel Valencia

DOJ

Justin Ellard
Michael Neff
Louis "Tony" Pellegrino

In recognition of outstanding investigative work that identified and brought to justice a series of schemes dating from 1995 to 2022 that defrauded the government to obtain nearly \$200 million in federal contracts through fraud and bribery.

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration

Financial Intelligence Group

Joe Estes
Christin Fox
Edison Gunter

Daniel Kwiatkowski
Nathan Laframboise
Jeremy Sieminski

Andrew Smith
Judson Wade

In recognition of the Financial Intelligence Group members ASAC Wade, SA Kwiatkowski, SA Laframboise, SA Smith, SA Gunter, IA Estes, IA Fox, and IA Sieminski's outstanding work resulting in the identification and recovery of \$494 million in stolen funds.

U.S. Postal Service

Multi-agency Investigation Closes in on Major Fraud through Operation Spinal Tap

Postal OIG

Kevin Cloninger
Colleen Maher
Brian Rudolph

FBI

Jon Habben
Jeffrey Horner
Ignacio Ramos

DOJ

Billy Joe McLain
Joseph McNalley

IRS-CI

Melinda Ball
Anton Chu

California Department of Insurance

Amanda Chamorro
Vladislav Mikulich

In recognition of the excellent contributions of a multi-year, multi-agency investigation that uncovered a criminal conspiracy between doctors, hospital executives, lawyers, and politicians to perform medical procedures tainted by bribes and kickbacks.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Endo Health Solutions Inc./Opana ER Investigative Team

VA OIG

Phillip Becker
Robert Breunig
Katharine Brown
Ariel Drobnes
Scott Harris
Hunter Hinton
Terri Julian
Eric Larson
Sonia Melwani
Lauren Olstad
Ronald Penny
Dave Spilker
Jenny Walenta

Amtrak OIG

Jill Maroney

HHS OIG

Amber Meurs

DCIS

Suzzette Bohmer
Jennifer Klein

DEA

David Diffenbach
Donna Richards
Stephanie Tait

FBI

Wende Bardfeld
Shaun O'Neal
William "Bill" Stewart

DOJ

Alexandra Chase
Benjamin Cornfeld
Matthew Feeley
Matthew Lash
Gabriel Scannapieco
Paul Schwartz
Tara Shinnick
Christopher Terranova
Maire Villafana
Natalie Waites
Angela Weddle

In recognition of outstanding collaborative efforts to combat the national opioid crisis by holding accountable an unscrupulous pharmaceutical manufacturer for its illegal sales and marketing practices of a powerful and highly addictive opioid.

Gaston L. Gianni, Jr. Better Government Award

Gaston L. Gianni, Jr., was confirmed as the first presidentially appointed Inspector General of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in 1996. He served in that role until his retirement from Federal service in 2004.

During his tenure at FDIC, IG Gianni served as the Vice Chairperson of the President’s Council on Integrity and Efficiency, a predecessor to CIGIE. In that role, he worked closely with other IGs to coordinate community-wide issues related to the effective operations of OIGs.

Before joining the FDIC, IG Gianni was a senior executive at the Government Accountability Office, where he served for over 31 years.

In recognition of IG Gianni’s lifetime commitment to Federal oversight, CIGIE presents this award to an individual or group whose efforts, accomplishments, or actions enhance the public’s confidence in the Government and that exemplify the highest ideals of public service.



General Services Administration

Keith Seguin et. al. Procurement Fraud and Corruption Investigation Team

GSA OIG

David Capelli
Gregory Fallecker
Jerrold Lee

DOD

Louis Carrillo
Hector Larkin
Victor Rodriguez
Claudio Solis

DOJ

William Lewis
Mary Nelda Valadez
Jonathan Porier
Kelly Stephenson

IRS-CI

Jonathan Reading

In recognition of a monumental procurement fraud and corruption investigation that identified more than \$2.3 million in bribes and \$400 million in compromised GSA contracts intended to support military readiness.

A dedicated team of special agents, analysts, attorneys, and information technology professionals partnered to conduct a lengthy criminal investigation into allegations that Keith Seguin, a former U.S. Air Force employee; Rubens Fiuza Lima, the owner of Impex, Inc.; and David J. Bolduc, Jr., one of the owners of QuantaDyn Corporation, conspired in a bribery scheme that spanned more than a decade and involved General Services Administration contracts valued at over \$400 million.

This eight-year, multi-agency investigation resulted in six criminal convictions, more than \$88 million in monetary recoveries for the government and more than 34 years of combined incarceration for the defendants.

Keith Seguin, David Bolduc, John Hancock, Rubens Fiuza Lima, Karen Paulsen, and QuantaDyn were all ordered to pay, jointly and severally, toward the total \$37.7 million in restitution.

Awards for Excellence | Multiple Disciplines

U.S. Department of Defense

Joint Pandemic Response Accountability Committee Health Care Shortages Team

DOD OIG

James Degaraff
Kristine Do
Glenn Estrada
Bridgett Fowler
Isaac Gallardo Recano
Katelyn Potter

DOJ OIG

Fei Yin F. Luk
Bradley C. Nelson
Michael E. Pannone
Glenn Stewart

HHS OIG

Lori Ahlstrand
Lydia Barbour
John Beacham
Pat Cogley
Vlada Hutton
Gerald Illies
Richard Mills
Jessica Swanstrom
Jane Wines

PRAC

Jarrett Fussell
Aaron Jewell
Jeanine Keay

Mey McLean
Laura Nichols
Lisa Reijula
Matt Schimmel
Amanda Seese
Alice Siempelkamp
Jenniffer Wilson

VA OIG

Jennifer Baptiste
Julie Kroviak
Patrice Marcarelli
David Vibe
John Wallis

In recognition of the exceptional partnership of five agencies to collaborate on an impactful report that identified key insights into personnel shortages in Federal health care programs or the providers they reimburse.

General Services Administration

Symantec Trial Team

GSA OIG

Mary Clare Claud
Samuel Francis
Steven Manber
Mark Rothschild

DOJ

F. Elias Boujaoude
Bryana Bowman
Brian Hudak
Sara McLean
Daniel Schiffer

In recognition of the outstanding work on a complex False Claims Act case that resulted in a \$53 million judgment for the United States.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

HHS-OIG Multidisciplinary Efforts to Protect Access to Care in Medicaid Managed Care

Akram Alrubayai	Matt Defraga	Dustin Litwiler
Natalie Alvarez	Rafael Echevarria	Lisa Long
Rosemary Bartholomew	Kelley Edwards	Chris Riley
Sara Bodnar	John Hagg	Howard Unger
Emily Borgelt	Charles Hubbs	Steven Woodruff
Hal Chan	Valerie Johnson	
Blaine Collins	Lonie Kim	

In recognition of sustained work across multiple disciplines to draw attention to growing needs to address significant shifts in how the government pays for and covers health care for tens of millions of Medicaid enrollees.

Small Business Administration

Cross-divisional Team for the COVID-19 Pandemic EIDL and PPP Loan Fraud Landscape

Brian Allen	Teresa Gray	Farrah Saint-Surin
Lee Bacon	Steven Grubb	Doug Schuweiler
Jeremy Benson	Brady Ipock	Donna Scott
Michelle Blank	Zakir Khattak	Alison Velesz
Rebecca Bosshart	Weston “Wes” King	Richard Vera
Samuel “Sam” Bronson	Sharon Leffel	Ronald “Ron” Waller
Shafee Carnegie	Hala Nsouli	Jennifer Wolny
Andrea Deadwyler	John Provan	
Michelle Dunn	Ashish Rangrej	

In recognition of stellar performance with the Government’s pandemic response in identifying over \$200 billion in potential fraud in SBA’s pandemic loan programs and informing stakeholders of what has been called the largest fraud in U.S. history.

Social Security Administration

Planning Team for the Whistleblower Education Forum, OIGs Learning through Collaboration

Commerce OIG	EPA OIG	Jason Cass
Manning Kalish	Eyana Esters	Samantha Cohen Coppel
		Emily Ford
DOD OIG	SSA OIG	Brian Johnson
Kenneth Sharpless	Michael Brady	Craig Jones
	Lisa Blum	Raymond Wong

In recognition of outstanding efforts to design, plan, and execute the inaugural Whistleblower Education Forum, providing collaborative, meaningful, and substantive whistleblower information to the entire OIG community.

U.S. Department of State

Bureau of Medical Services Inspection Team

State OIG

Lisa Derrickson
Antonios Dimoulas
Ellen Engels
Brett Fegley
Colette Marcellin

Kevin Milas
Vandana Patel
Lisa Piascik
Rebecca Sawyer
Brian Smith
Timothy Wildy

VA OIG

Mary Toy
Dr. Thomas Wong

In recognition of exemplary performance in identifying critical deficiencies in the Bureau of Medical Services, such as significant delays in deploying an electronic health record system and noncompliance of quality management procedures.

U.S. Postal Service

USPS OIG Transforms Contracting Fraud Detection and Improves Decision-Making

Colin Arbes
Wilbert Areval-Sorto

Rubenka Bandyopadhyay
Peter Nicewicz

Michael Yee

In recognition of the transformation of contracting tools to improve decision-making through proactive risk models for identifying contract fraud in the Postal Service's multibillion dollar contracting vehicles.

Sentner Award for Dedication and Courage

On June 21, 2006, Special Agent William Sentner III of the DOJ OIG was working with the FBI on an investigation involving corrupt prison guards in a Federal prison in Tallahassee, Florida. As a result of the investigation, six prison guards were indicted for sexually abusing female inmates, smuggling contraband into the institution, and threatening the inmates with retaliation if they exposed the criminal acts.

Special Agent Sentner was part of the joint DOJ OIG-FBI team that went to the prison to arrest the six guards. At the prison, as one of the guards was being arrested, he produced a gun from his bag and began firing. The guard first shot a prison lieutenant and then shot Special Agent Sentner. Before the guard was able to fire at other personnel, Special Agent Sentner returned fire, fatally wounding the guard. Special Agent Sentner saved the lives of several other law enforcement officers while sacrificing his own, as he later died of his wound.

On October 22, 2008, President George W. Bush honored Special Agent Sentner by posthumously awarding him the Medal of Valor, the highest national award for a public safety officer. Today, CIGIE bestows the Sentner Award for Dedication and Courage on an individual or group who demonstrates uncommon selflessness, dedication to duty, or courage while performing OIG duties.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Team for Reporting Violent Incident Witnessed During Government Travel

Thomas Martin
Breanna Noll

In recognition of the recipients' presence of mind and sense of duty when they responded to a violent incident while traveling for the government.

In April 2023, while on official government travel in Chicago, Illinois, Breanna Noll and Thomas Martin, two VA OIG employees with the OIG's Office of Audits and Evaluations, were exiting a restaurant parking lot in their vehicle on their way back from dinner.

While driving, they witnessed a man pounding violently on another vehicle and repeatedly attempting to strike a woman seated inside. The woman was cowering in the back seat while the man repeatedly struck out at her with his hands and feet and tried to gain access to her through both the front and rear doors.

Fearing for the woman's safety, Breanna and Thomas immediately responded. Working in tandem, Thomas circled the parking lot as inconspicuously as possible to obtain the vehicle's license plate and monitor the unfolding events. Brianna dialed 911 from the passenger seat and relayed a description of the events, victim, assailant, and vehicle location to emergency dispatchers.

Police arrived on the scene within five minutes of the 911 call, but the assailant had fled on foot after realizing he was being observed. The woman also had driven away from the scene in the vehicle the man had tried to enter. Thomas and Breanna continued to aid law enforcement, providing details about the woman's vehicle and directing officers to where the perpetrator had fled. As police struggled to find him, Thomas and Breanna eventually spotted the man walking along the back of the parking lot as he attempted to evade police. They pointed him out to police, and he was taken into custody. Afterwards, they remained on scene to provide witness statements.

Breanna and Thomas demonstrated bravery, a sense of duty, and the presence of mind to relay important details to police to keep the woman safe. Their actions prevented this violent incident from becoming even more serious.

Awards for Excellence | Employee Integrity

Environmental Protection Agency

Investigation of the U.S. Chemical Safety & Hazard Investigation Board Chairperson Team

Sheryl Golkow
Kristin Kafka

Mark Miller
Carl Weitz

In recognition of an investigation that uncovered the gross misspending by the head of an executive agency to finance her personal travel, lavishly furnish her office, and improperly obtain training.

Awards for Excellence | Government Ethics

U.S. Department of Justice

U.S. Attorney Investigation Team

Joshua Mahan

Lara Peirce

Ann Marie Terzaken

In recognition of exemplary work in conducting an investigation of numerous complex misconduct allegations concerning a then sitting United States Attorney.

Awards for Excellence | Special Act

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Krista Scott

In recognition of outstanding achievement for identifying and recovering approximately \$3 million for NASA from a government-wide settlement to resolve False Claims Act allegations.

Award for Excellence | Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility

U.S. Department of Education

CIGIE Career Fair Virtual Office Hours Team

Education OIG

Matthew Ladd

Nina Murphy

NASA OIG

Michael Graham

Bouviette Pennington

In recognition of exemplary efforts in creating and coordinating the first “Virtual Office Hours” component of the March 2024 CIGIE Career Fair

Barry R. Snyder Joint Award

Barry R. Snyder was appointed as the Inspector General of the Federal Reserve Board (FRB) in 1998, where he served until 2006. In addition to the important oversight work he performed at FRB, he was the long serving Vice Chairperson of one of CIGIE’s predecessors, the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency (ECIE), whose membership included all Designated Federal Entity (DFE) IGs. During his tenure as ECIE Vice Chairperson, IG Snyder worked tirelessly with his counterparts at the President’s Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE) to advance the mutual interests of all IGs across the Federal Government. His dedication to bringing Presidentially appointed and DFE IGs together helped lay the foundation for the organization that became CIGIE.

In recognition of his commitment to the IG Community and principles of teamwork, CIGIE presents this award to a team of individuals from multiple OIGs who made significant contributions through their cooperative efforts on matters of interest and importance to the IG Community, the Federal Government, and the public.

Multiple OIGs (NASA OIG Nominating Agency)

CIGIE Introductory Auditor Course



AmeriCorps OIG

Monique Colter

DOD OIG

Christina Perez
Vanessa Santos
Vanessa Thompson
Miranda Zona

DHS OIG

Stephanie Brand
Heather Dugan
Angela McNabb
John Paul McPhail
LaParacina Williams

DOI OIG

Troy Dopke

DOJ OIG

Dominic Gagliardi

DOL OIG

Stephanie Christian
Jon Ling
Grover Simmons

NASA OIG

Susan Bachle
Julia Eggert
Derek Gainsboro
Deanna Lee
Sarah McGrath
John Schultz
Dimitra Tsamis

NSF OIG

Brittany Moon
Melissa Prunchak
Vashti Young

OPM OIG

Tonya Ashby

PBGC OIG

Brooke Holmes

SBA OIG

Jieun (“Abbie”) Shin

SEC OIG

Sharice Cole

Treasury OIG

Erika Axelson
Jeneba Moiwo
Pamela L. Williams

TIGTA

Frank W. Jones

In recognition of exceptional achievement and outstanding teamwork in the redesign and facilitation of the revised CIGIE Training Institute’s Introductory Auditor course.

The CIGIE Training Institute conducted a survey of over 1,500 employees from across the federal audit community to identify the top five audit technical skills needed to effectively perform audit work. As a result of this survey the Institute decided to revise the 40-hour CIGIE Introductory Auditor course. A team of experienced auditors from 14 different Offices of Inspectors General (OIG) volunteered to support the redesign effort and serve as adjunct instructors (AIs).

Over the course of four months, the AIs supported the redesign of the auditor course and individually committed as much as 100 hours of time researching, designing, and developing new classes. Going above and beyond, the AIs conducted this work while simultaneously continuing to conduct audit and training work as part of their regular OIG positions.

Individuals across the OIG community are part of the team that redesigned and facilitated the new Introductory Auditor course and represent the following agencies: AmeriCorps, DOD, DOI, DOL, DOJ, DHS, NASA, NSF, OPM, PBGC, SBA, SEC, Treasury, and TIGTA.

This course serves as foundational training for the next generation of federal auditors on how to implement Yellow Book standards. The team's revision and implementation of the new OIG community focused course will better ensure that new auditors across the community are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to conduct effective audits that comply with established auditing standards.

Awards for Excellence | Audit

Amtrak (National Railroad Passenger Corporation)

New Acela Program Audit Team

Walter Beckman	Andrew W. Mollohan	Kristina Sladek
Nadine Bennett	Alison O'Neill	
Melissa Hermes	Rachel Powell	

In recognition of excellence in identifying and correctly predicting significant schedule and cost increases to Amtrak's multibillion-dollar New Acela trainset purchase.

U.S. Department of Commerce

DOC OIG Cybersecurity/IT Security Audit Team

Latrisha Cooper	Bruce MacDougall	Chris Sikes
Vasily Gerasimov	Chuck Mitchell	Ping Sun
Kyle Griffith	Connor Pate	Ivan Tang
Jake Hyun	Alan Schultz	Noah Unger

In recognition of ensuring critical Commerce systems were secured, helping other OIGs do the same, and broadening the impact of reports through interaction with stakeholders.

U.S. Department of Defense

Audit of the DoD's Re-valuation of the Support Provided to Ukraine Through Presidential Drawdown Authority

Phillip Abbott	Paul Glenn	Bianca Shannon
Cheryl Dagy	Rodney Gray	Janet Stallings
Michael Dell	Brett Mansfield	Theodore Turner
Jonathan Duncan	Sharon Parr	Michael Vandesteene
Ronald Inman	Marissa Perdue	Lorin Venable
Jonathan Kistler	Colin Pingree	
Shelley Gabel	Jared Roshanmanesh	

In recognition of an audit identifying at least \$1.9 billion in additional overvaluation of support to Ukraine and resulting in the DoD's improved management of aid provided through Presidential Drawdown Authority.

U.S. Department of Defense

The DoD OIG Audit Team Performing Oversight of Opioid Prescription Compliance

Jacob Belko	Travis Duling	Michael Hepler
Cameron Charbonneau	Andrew Fechhelm	Shonda Stevens
Chantel Clark	Taylor Heim	Eric Thacker

In recognition of outstanding achievements in improving the integrity, efficiency, or effectiveness of the DoD healthcare program by identifying thousands of beneficiaries at risk of being over-prescribed opioids and resulting actions to mitigate that risk.

Environmental Protection Agency

EPA OIG's IJJA Water Investments Team

Brenda Carey-DiGregorio	Haidee Lai	Judith Reilly
Ethan Celsa	Eugenia Ostrozhansky	Ginger Reynolds
Kevin King	Devon Padula	Callie Wixon

In recognition of the EPA OIG's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Directorates' audits of the EPA's historic \$60 billion appropriation, which helped ensure funding would be managed appropriately and recorded accurately.

Environmental Protection Agency

The EPA Must Improve Controls and Integrate Its Information System to Manage Fraud Potential in the Renewable Fuel Standard Program

Michael D. Davis	Margaux Hoover	Kristin Pope
Gabrielle Fekete	Richard Jones	Wendy Wierzbicki

In recognition of improving and protecting the EPA Renewable Fuel Standard program controls fraud, waste, and abuse related to the generation and trading of \$38 billion in Renewable Identification Numbers.

General Services Administration

Transactional Data Reporting Pilot Evaluation Audit Team

Susana Bandeira	Thomas Tripple
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In recognition of an outstanding report that found the General Services Administration's evaluation of its \$14-billion-a-year Transactional Data Reporting pilot was misleading, and the pilot had amassed data that is inaccurate, unreliable, and unusable.

Government Publishing Office

GPO OIG Audit Division

Lori Lau Dillard
Jason Kim

Brendan Phillips
Mary Webb

In recognition of the GPO OIG Audit Team whose audit identified over \$165,000 in questioned costs in the Telework Program Audit and made nine recommendations to improve telework and transit program administration and oversight.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

HHS Automatic Provider Relief Fund Payments Audit Team

Rodney Brown
Mandy Brooks
Jeffrey Cohen
Rosemary Gonzalez
Sean Harris

Michael Joseph
Yun (Jessica) Kim
Christopher Lasrado
Jason Ng
James Ortmann

Maria Silvestre
Brenda Tierney
Howard Unger
Lilian Yang

In recognition of outstanding contributions to identify improperly calculated Provider Relief Fund payments totaling over \$2 billion and ineffective processes by HHS that resulted in \$247 million in disbursements to ineligible providers.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

HHS and VA OIGs Duplicate Payments Team

HHS OIG

Lori Ahlstrand
Ronald Dea
Yun (Jessica) Kim
Logan Kingma
Michelle Liu
Karen Lowe
Lauren McNulty
Richard Mills
Sabrina Morello
Alice Norwood

Josue Paniagua

Michael Reeb
Jaime Saucedo
Ben Siu
Steven Shandy
Timothy Smith
Sharmaine Sotelo
Jessica Swanstrom
Brian Wong
Samuel Yuan

VA OIG

Eurydice Donaldson
Dyanne Griffith
Jennifer McDonald
Kristin Nichols
Dharani Ranganathan
Douglas Rosales
Jill Russell
Brock Sittinger

In recognition of outstanding contributions towards an interdepartmental effort to identify vulnerabilities with coordination of care between HHS and VA programs.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

ICE Surgical Procedures Team

Nita Addotto	Azriel Krongauz	Kiana Porter-Price
Jennifer Eads	Carlos Lecaro	Kirsten Teal
Gaven Ehrlich	Frank Lucas	Ignacio Yanes
Nick Jathar	Sandra Parsons	
Lindsey Koch	Maryann Pereira	

In recognition of the team's audit that addressed urgent deficiencies in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's review and approval of major surgical procedures for detained non-citizens.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Audit Team

Anthony Colache	John Jadick	Mark Lonetto
Marc Cruz	Lindsey Koch	Mike Nasuti
Kathryn George	Max Larson	Maryann Pereira
Tia Jackson	Carlos Lecaro	Kathleen Toli

In recognition of the team's audit that strengthened U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's ability to combat the use of trade-based money laundering schemes by transnational criminal organizations.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Loss Mitigation Team

Patrick Anthony	Carrie Gray	Elana Taylor
Marvance Coody	Uyen Hawes	Gregory Soames
Natasha Guajarado	Tina Marra	Alex Wollman

In recognition of meticulous attention to detail and an innovative approach, HUD OIG's teams compiled enormous quantities of information and humanized the impact of noncompliance on real borrowers. This compelled stakeholders to act in meaningful ways.

U.S. International Development Finance Corporation

Assessing DFC's Management of Projects in India

Darrell Benjamin	Gladis Griffith	Sarah Jeong
Erika Ersland	Felicia Hawkins	

In recognition of contributions that led to the successful completion of an impactful audit assessing DFC-funded renewable energy and microfinance projects in India, leading to questioned costs of \$54.91 million.

U.S. Department of Justice

Audit of the Office of Justice Programs Victim Compensation Grants Awarded to the Guam Office of the Attorney General, Tamuning, Guam

David Gaschke
Phillip Heng

Christine Hinton-Martinez
Megan Navarre

Jessica Rivera

In recognition of the audit team's exceptional work, the territory of Guam enacted legislation to bring its victim compensation program into compliance with the federal Victims of Crime Act requirements to protect victims' identities.

U.S. Department of Labor

Temporary Full Federal Funding of the First Week of Compensable Regular Unemployment Insurance Program Audit Team

Labony Chakraborty
Bradford Green

Jonathan Heinz
Velma Ivey

Corey Miller
Betty Norwood

In recognition of the audit team's dedication and tireless efforts, resulting in the identification of billions in unused funds from the Temporary Full Federal Funding of the First Week of Compensable Regular Unemployment Insurance (UI) Program.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Review of NASA's Mars Sample Return Program

Adrian Dupree
L. Scott Collins
Bryan McGloin

Gerardo Saucedo
Lauren Suls
Ray Tolomeo

Lynette Westfall

In recognition of exceptional achievement and outstanding teamwork in identifying significant obstacles, including rising costs and technological challenges, NASA must address for the Mars Sample Return mission to be successful.

Office of Personnel Management

OPM OIG Special Audits Group

Rick Davis
Luke Johnson

Rhonda Surrena
Josh Swartzlander

Ethan Taylor
Jim Tuel

In recognition of the Special Audits Group's excellent work in identifying \$45 million in prescription drug overcharges due to APWU and ESI's failure to follow the FEHBP's transparency standards for pharmacy benefit managers.

Securities and Exchange Commission

Audit of the SEC's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity Programs and Operations

Steve Encomienda	Leann Harrier
Lucia Fuentes	Eileen Kao

In recognition of identifying fundamental weaknesses in the programs that protect SEC employees from harassment and discrimination and recommending reforms to strengthen the effectiveness of and restore trust in those programs.

Small Business Administration

Series of Audits and Inspections of SBA's Restaurant Revitalization Fund Program (RRF)

Min A	Amber Lyons	Myakka Ware
Mitzel Brannigan	Melanie Pavone	Trevor Williams
Yolande Bullock	Abbie Shin	
Yeon Sil "Rachel" Chu	Christina Sweet	

In recognition of outstanding work to improve SBA's delivery and oversight of the RRF program, established to help small businesses in the food service industry adversely affected by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic.

U.S. Department of Transportation

DOT-OIG Do Not Pay Initiative Audit Team

Shirell Butcher	Seth Kaufman	Javier Perez
Susan Crook-Wilson	Addison Lee	William Savage
Ingrid Harris	Makesi Ormond	Seetha Srinivasan

In recognition of exemplary efforts to strengthen the Department's payment integrity processes by improving the Department's compliance with the Do Not Pay Initiative.

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration

Advance Child Tax Credit Reconciliation Team

Tanya Boone	Aranxa Delgado	Sandy Ramos
Kenneth Carlson	Jonathan Lloyd	Darryl Roth

In recognition of outstanding achievements by the Advance Child Tax Credit Reconciliation Team in evaluating and reporting issues related to the IRS's efforts to administer \$105 billion in legislatively required financial relief.

U.S. Postal Service

Improving USPS's Delivery of Cremated Remains and Veterans Affairs Medications

Jean Bittinger

Irasema Medina

Kathy Oswald

Jessica Schwersenska

Bobbi Wudarczyk

In recognition of the Delivery Operations team's exemplary performance and commitment to enhancing public trust in the Postal Service's processing and delivering of critical packages containing cremated remains and Veterans Affairs medications.

U.S. Postal Service

Providing Key Oversight of USPS's Electric Vehicle Program

Joshua Bartzen

Joseph Hansel

Shirian Holland

Steven Hutchins

Suman Khosla

Denyce King

Jennifer Pritchett

Stacey Shih

Anne Spevacek

Shemshon William

In recognition of outstanding contributions in developing a Postal Service electric vehicle oversight program and sharing relevant audit planning strategies and best practices with the CIGIE community.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Teams for VA Personnel and Contractor Suitability Audits

Christopher Bowers

Michael Derick

Mary Dickerson

Victoria Eatherton

Juliana Figueiredo

Brendon Gregoire

Jason Ingold

Justin Kerly

Christopher Kinney

Kotwoallama Reine

Doyle-Zerbo

Heather Robinson

Jill Russell

Shawn Steele

Allison Tarmann

William Tettermer

Steven Walton

Scott Wetzel

Danita Young

In recognition of the teams' resolute efforts to bring VA into compliance with new employee and contractor vetting requirements that help ensure the safety of veterans and VA employees, as well as the security of information and data systems.

June Gibbs Brown Career Achievement Award

June Gibbs Brown was part of the first group of Inspectors General nominated by President Jimmy Carter and confirmed by the U.S. Senate after the passage of the Inspector General Act of 1978. She served as the first statutory IG of the Department of the Interior until 1981. That year, President Ronald Reagan nominated her to be the IG at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, where she served for 4 years. In 1987, President Reagan again asked IG Brown to serve her country, this time as the IG for the Department of Defense.

IG Brown is most often remembered for her achievements as the IG of the Department of Health and Human Services, a position she held between 1993 and 2000. During her tenure, she oversaw the expansion of operations at both HHS and HHS OIG after the enactment of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. She later served as the first IG of the Social Security Administration when it was carved out of HHS.

In light of IG Brown's extensive contributions to the Federal oversight community, CIGIE presents this award to one person who has served for at least a decade in the IG community and who has made significant and sustained contributions that furthered the goals of the Inspector General Act throughout their career.



Reginald (Reggie) F. Allen
DOJ OIG

U.S. Department of Justice

Reginald F. Allen (Posthumously)

Director, Computer Security and Information Technology Audit Office

In recognition of Reginald F. Allen's significant and sustained contributions throughout his 33+ year career, and for his unmatched dedication to enhancing the OIG community's impact on the government's information technology management and security.

Reginald (Reggie) Allen was a life-long civil servant with infectious positivity, a composed and modest disposition, and keen intellect. His steady and empathetic leadership style brought grace, unwavering support, and confidence to everyone around him. Reggie fervently believed in the mission of the federal Inspectors General and was a highly respected leader in the community's efforts to enhance the impact of Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) audits and to increase the whole of government's attention on IT security. He was very proud to see government leadership, including the President, as well as the Deputy Attorney General, recognize the value of FISMA audit results to help spur essential change in government IT management and security.

Reggie began his 33+ year federal career in 1990 as a student intern with the Department of Agriculture. In 1998, Reggie joined the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General

(OIG) as a Program Analyst in its Philadelphia Regional Audit Office. In 2000, Reggie transferred to Washington, D.C. where he joined the Computer Security & Information Technology Audit Office (CSITAO) as a Program Analyst. It was in these early years at CSITAO that Reggie began to hone his expertise in FISMA and IT management and security. In 2003, Reggie was selected as a Program Manager in the DOJ OIG Audit Division's Office of Operations where he oversaw many internal and external performance audits, as well as FISMA audits conducted by CSITAO. In 2007, Reggie was promoted once again when he was named Director of CSITAO, where he meritoriously served until his untimely passing on January 30, 2024.

Reggie was a consummate public service professional who was always available to anyone who needed him. Even-tempered and kind, he believed in the value of every person, and he made all those with whom he interacted feel valued and appreciated. He constantly looked for ways to boost morale, such as by organizing friendly and fun competitions, and he often and endearingly unfurled a portable chess board for lunchtime matches. Nothing made him prouder than to revel in his colleague's accomplishments, and they loved him for that. Because of qualities both professional and personal, Reggie was a mentor to many across the DOJ OIG and throughout CIGIE, and a beloved leader and friend to his CSITAO colleagues.

Reggie's legacy has left an indelible impact on the DOJ OIG, the Justice Department, and the greater federal oversight community.

Awards for Excellence | Information Technology

Federal Reserve Board & Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

FISMA Capstone Report Working Group

Commerce OIG

Jake Hyun

Yvette Rasnick

Todd Truax

Alyssa O'Brien

Laura Polly

Paul Vaclavik

DOD OIG

Mohamoud Ali

Chantel Clark

Phillip Faller

Taylor Heim

Gbenga Oguntade

DHS OIG

Stefanie Tynes

FRB OIG

Donna Lormand

Chelsea Nguyen

NSF OIG

Melissa Prunchak

SEC OIG

Sara Tete Nkongo

In recognition of significant contributions and collaboration on CIGIE's first-ever capstone report that highlights trends in federal agencies' cybersecurity performance under the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

ITA Team

Lauren Barrick

Tanisha Bethea

Jason Dominguez

Sonya Griffin

Shawn Hatch

Taurean McKenzie

Bridgette OgunMokun

Saajan Paul

Lawrence Polk

Thomas Rohrback

Rashedul Romel

Maria Romstedt

Omar Russel

Lance Watkins

In recognition of an audit that immediately alerted the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) of high-risk vulnerabilities and prompted TSA to protect one of their most critical systems from cybersecurity breaches.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Audit Team

Kevin Dolloson	Henry Kim	Usman Muhammed
Jason Dominguez	Armando Lastra	Matt Noll
Rick Harsche	Dennisse Lecaro	Kiana Porter-Price

In recognition of the audit team's management alert to notify Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Congress, of urgent risks to the safety of ICE employees and to its operations due to thousands of applications residing on ICE mobile devices.

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

NGA Data Analytics Team

Heather Alexander	Jason Reis	Mark Winterowd
David Bartelmes	Adam Wiley	

In recognition of the data analytics team's exemplary efforts in creating multiple business analytic and proactive fraud detection models to leverage massive volumes of data to detect and mitigate fraud and enhance OIG business practices and operations.

U.S. Postal Service

USPS OIG's Use of Robotic Process Automation Yields Significant Savings

Joseph Chang	Sara Doyle	Michael Goddard
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In recognition of USPS OIG's Robotic Process Automation team for leveraging advanced automation techniques to realize significant cost and time savings for agency operations. This innovation has allowed our staff to focus on higher priority initiatives.



Awards for Excellence | Management

U.S. Department of Defense

Access to Health Care in the Military Health System Evaluations Team

Thomas Bickett
Maik Buckingham
Eric Cherry

Derwin Cooper
Rebecca Fitzpatrick
Elias Nimmer

Norman Printer
Nakita Simpson

In recognition of outstanding collaboration between various members of the DoD oversight community to highlight systemic concerns with access to health care and staffing shortages in the Military Health System.

Alexander Hamilton Award

Alexander Hamilton was one of our country’s most influential Founding Fathers. He dedicated much of his life to public service, including as an aide-de-camp to General George Washington during the Revolutionary War, a representative at the Constitutional Convention, and Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, where he laid the foundation for our modern banking system.

A lesser-known fact is that after Hamilton left his government positions in the 1790s, President Adams and former President Washington asked Hamilton to serve his country once more as tensions with France rose and the threat of war grew. As a result, Hamilton was the Inspector General of the U.S. Army from 1798 to 1800. Throughout his long career, IG Hamilton demonstrated a commitment to building and sustaining strong government structures and programs.

In recognition of his accomplishments and his legacy, CIGIE presents this award to the individual or group who demonstrates outstanding achievements in improving the integrity, efficiency, or effectiveness of agency operations. The Alexander Hamilton Award constitutes CIGIE’s highest recognition.



U.S. Department of Agriculture

Investigative Team Upholding Programs that Offer Relief to Prior Discriminatory Practices

USDA OIG

Matthew Deuchler
David Rucker
Matthew Wilkins

DOT OIG

Kevin Porter

DOJ

Bart Dickinson
Amanda Fields
Angela Jegley
Michael Johnson
Cameron McCree

IRS-CI

Keith Martin

CIGIE

Rachel Hart

In recognition of the significant contribution to the integrity of the Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation and the Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers Claims and helping ensure those benefits reach those for whom they are intended.

Through an exceptional amount of dedication, resilience, and intra-agency cooperation, this team uncovered and stopped a fraud scheme involving the Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation and the Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers Claims program.

This investigation was conducted jointly by the United States Department of Agriculture’s Office of Inspector General, the Internal Revenue Service’s Criminal Investigation Division, United States Postal Inspection Service, and the Department of Justice.

The team demonstrated extraordinary commitment when working on this case. Due to the complicated nature of the scheme, which took time to uncover, and the length of the investigation, several agents and prosecutorial staff retired while the investigation was ongoing. New people had to learn about the case so they could contribute to the investigation efficiently and effectively. Despite these challenges, everyone stayed committed to the investigation, and OIG continued the investigative process over seven years.

This extremely complex and difficult investigation ultimately led to the successful prosecution of all seven defendants. As a testament to the egregiousness of the scheme, the seven defendants were sentenced to a cumulative total of 136 months' incarceration and ordered to pay over \$11.5 million in restitution. Ultimately, the team helped restore integrity to multiple USDA programs.



**27th Annual
Award Ceremony**

November 13, 2024

In Remembrance

Remembering Our Colleagues



J. Russell George,
Inspector General
*Treasury Inspector General for
Tax Administration*

J. Russell George served as TIGTA's Inspector General for almost 20 years, from November 2004 until his death on January 1, 2024. At the time of his passing, Mr. George was among the longest-serving Inspectors General in the federal government. Mr. George led a TIGTA staff of more than 700 professionals who conducted or supported audits, investigations, inspections, and evaluations of the Internal Revenue Service. During his tenure, TIGTA's oversight efforts resulted in the recovery, protection, and identification of monetary benefits totaling more than \$325 billion and impacted over 440 million taxpayer accounts.

A native of New York City, he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C. He went on to receive his Juris Doctor from Harvard University School of Law in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Mr. George will be remembered for his stewardship, professionalism, and the independence he displayed overseeing our nation's tax system.



Marshall Allen,
Assistant Regional Inspector General
*Department of Health and Human
Services OIG*

Marshall Allen joined the Dallas Regional office in 2021 as an Assistant Regional Inspector General following a career in health care journalism. Marshall's accomplishments prior to HHS-OIG include a nomination for a Pulitzer Prize and a best-selling book advising consumers on medical debt. Marshall joined HHS-OIG after spending years being impressed by its mission. At the time of his passing on May 19, 2024, he resided in Colleyville, Texas, with his wife and three college-aged children. Marshall is remembered for his curiosity and his commitment to his faith.



Reginald (Reggie) F. Allen,
Director
Department of Justice OIG

Reggie Allen was a life-long civil servant with infectious positivity, a composed and modest disposition, and keen intellect. His steady and empathetic leadership style brought grace, unwavering support, and confidence to everyone around him. Simply put, Reggie made us all better—better at our jobs, better colleagues, better friends, better people.

Reggie began his federal career in 1990 as a student intern with the Department of Agriculture. In 1998, he joined the DOJ OIG as a Program Analyst. He held various positions and during his 26-year career with the DOJ OIG, notably serving for nearly 17 years as the Director of the Computer Security and Information Technology Audit Office. Mr. Allen fervently believed in the mission of the OIG and was a highly respected leader in the federal IG community's efforts to enhance the impact of Federal Information Security Management Act audits and to increase the whole of government's attention on IT security.

Mr. Allen's professional legacy is one of tremendous impact: on the work and mission of the OIG and the greater federal oversight community; and on the people who perform the work to carry out that important mission. We will always remember his ubiquitous and contagious smile, the ways in which he helped us grow as professionals, and most of all how he touched our hearts.



Sean Baer,
Special Agent
U.S. Postal Service OIG

On April 9, 2024, Special Agent Sean Baer was killed in a head-on collision while on duty. Sean joined the OIG in 2014 as a special agent assigned to the Special Inquiries Division. In 2016, he transferred to the Contract Fraud Investigation Division, a position he held for nearly 10 years.

Just last year, Sean was recognized at the 2023 CIGIE Award Ceremony for outstanding investigation efforts leading to the prosecution of a major Postal Service subcontractor who had been defrauding the Postal Service through their facilities maintenance services contract. Special Agent Baer was essential in identifying a systemic weakness in the USPS EMCOR facilities services contract, resulting in a direct financial impact in excess of \$5 million. Due to this investigation, USPS has strengthened their contracts and oversight of their facilities maintenance program.

Sean was a role model who had a passion to mentor younger agents and whose dedication to the OIG mission was unparalleled. Those who knew him, even briefly, will remember Sean for his keen intellect, quick wit, and endless desire to learn. Sean could talk to anyone about anything, and he possessed a compassionate and generous heart. Above everything, Sean was a devoted and loving husband, father, son and brother. Sean is survived by his wife and three young children.



Walter J. Bailey III,
Writer-Editor
Department of Labor OIG

Walter Jerome Bailey III served as a Writer-Editor with the Department of Labor (DOL) OIG where he helped write audit reports, special reports, and policy. Walter had extensive knowledge and experience in writing and editing for the federal government as well as for the private sector. In his 4 years of service at the U.S. Navy and about 10 years at the U.S. Army prior to that, he worked with subject matter experts to clarify documents on topics as varied as weapons systems, cybersecurity, and soldier performance. He also worked for 3 years as a Technical Publishing Team Leader for the Army. Before working with the Department of Defense, Walter served as an editor for companies such as the Computer Science Corporation, National Society of Professional Engineers, and National Captioning Institute.

Throughout his career, Walter developed solutions to document workflow and system efficiency, served as a liaison to other offices, and helped communicate complex information in plain language. Walter graduated early from Virginia's Woodbridge Senior High School at 16 years old and subsequently earned a degree in English from George Mason University. Although Walter was only with the DOL OIG for less than 2 years, he still managed to garner two significant awards—the Secretary's Exceptional Achievement Award and an OIG Special Achievement Award.

Walter was passionate about being philanthropic and his humor and kindness left an indelible impression. He passed away on November 24, 2023.



Mary Elisabeth Ball,
Inspector
Department of Justice OIG

Mary Elisabeth Ball served as an Inspector with the Evaluation and Inspections (E&I) Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ) OIG from August 2021. Prior to joining the DOJ OIG, Mary began her civil service with an 11-year career at the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) where she held various healthcare-related positions across the country. During her time at the DOJ OIG, Mary's incredible knowledge and skills were instrumental in ensuring accuracy and objectivity in many evaluations, inspections, and cross-divisional work. For example, Mary served as a team member for a review of racial equity in the DOJ's law enforcement components and helped inform the creation of a successful BOP routine inspection program. Mary led DOJ OIG's first inspection of a Federal Medical Center, consulted on our BOP inspections, and served as a subject matter expert for BOP healthcare oversight work. As a Contracting Officer Representative, she helped retain contracted correctional healthcare providers, and she was involved in several OIG committees and initiatives.

Mary was known across the DOJ OIG as a "go-to-person," and during her time with the agency, there was not an evaluation or inspection without her knowledge embedded into the work. She was always available to offer a helping hand, provide subject matter expertise, or simply to listen. She was not only a colleague but also a kind, caring, and compassionate friend within the organization. Mary passed away on August 14, 2024. She will be remembered for her integrity, dedication, warmth, sense of humor, and for the incredible light she passed on to everyone she met.



Jacqueline Bear,
Program Analyst
Department of Homeland Security OIG

Program Analyst Jacqueline Bear was a dedicated employee of Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) for 18 years. She last served in the Office of External Affairs where she was the lead coordinator on the Semiannual Report to Congress, conducted Reports Quality Assurance (RQA) reviews, and facilitated the development of the Major Management and Performances Challenges report. She also lent her skills to a CIGIE working group which produced the Top Management and Performance Challenges Facing Multiple Federal Agencies (September 2023). Jacque was a highly organized and effective project manager and was adept at risk assessment. She was known to her DHS OIG colleagues and friends for her smarts, quick wit, infectious positivity, perseverance, and hard work. She was deeply committed to her husband and four children, and she was further known for feeding entire high school football teams and baking an abundance of delicious pies at Thanksgiving. After a courageous battle with cancer, Jacque passed away November 4, 2023. Her contributions to DHS OIG will be felt for years to come.



Jeremy William Boyd,
Program Analyst
Department of Defense OIG

Jeremy was a graduate of Bearden High School, Class of 2006, and received his Bachelor of Science in Communication (2013) and Doctor of Jurisprudence (2017) both from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Following law school, Jeremy accepted a position for the DoD OIG and was the recipient of the DoD Outstanding Employee, 2021, Annual Disability Awards. Jeremy Boyd passed away on June 13, 2024.



Lillian Chong,
Senior Auditor
*Department of Health and Human
Services OIG*

Lillian Chong joined the San Francisco Regional office in 2006 and dedicated her entire career to HHS-OIG, with a particular focus on child-care-related work. At the time of her passing on May 16, 2024, Lillian had risen to the level of Senior Auditor. She resided in San Jose with her husband and three young children, all under the age of 10. Lillian is remembered for her warm, positive personality and her passion for bringing people together through baking, cooking, and exploring new restaurants.



Anthony Febbo,
Senior Investigator
Department of Defense OIG

In 2019, Tony retired as a Colonel after over 34 years of military service and four overseas combat deployments. He served as a Senior Investigator with Administrative Investigations at the OIG from June of 2022 until his passing. Tony will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, son, brother, and friend. He will be remembered for his dedicated and completely selfless service, his humor, and his unending love for those around him. He leaves behind his wife Anita and his four children, Rebecca (28), Sara (27), Bryan (25), and Melissa (24). Tony was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. The DoD OIG sends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Retired Colonel Anthony “Tony” Febbo.

Retired Colonel Anthony “Tony” Febbo passed away on June 3, 2023.



Juliette “Kim” Freeman,
Administrative Specialist
Social Security Administration OIG

Kim began her career with the Federal Government at the age of 18 when she started working with the Department of Food and Drug Administration. She was one of the Social Security Administration (SSA) OIG’s pioneers, joining the organization at its inception when it became an independent entity in 1995. She worked diligently, moving up the ladder, until she retired in December 2021. Kim is remembered and honored as much more than just a coworker to those in the New York office who knew her best. She was a cornerstone of SSA OIG’s professional family, a mentor to many, and a friend to all. Kim brought not only her remarkable skills, but also an infectious enthusiasm and a heart full of kindness. Kim was not just committed to the excellence of the team but also deeply invested in the well-being and growth of everyone around her. Her passion for making the office more than just a place of work, but a place where everyone felt valued and included, was one of her most admirable qualities.

Kim passed away on August 23, 2023.



Eleanor Gailey,
Special Agent
Department of Defense OIG

Eleanor served with distinction over a 16-year career with the Department of Defense (DoD), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS). Eleanor immediately exhibited her investigative prowess through multiple successful public corruption investigations. Her reputation as a superb white-collar criminal investigator led prosecutors to specifically request her talents and expertise for high-profile investigations, including “GDMA (Fat Leonard)” and “The Medicine Shoppe” investigations.

Eleanor was a “service before self” person to her very core, as she honorably volunteered for and completed two deployments to Afghanistan. Eleanor further showed her dedication to protecting America’s warfighters by leading a highly successful operation that focused on both the counter-proliferation of sensitive DoD technologies and counterfeit parts entering the DoD supply chain.

Eleanor’s contributions and impact to the DoD, the OIG, and DCIS are unprecedented, resulting in 106 indictments, 88 convictions, 408 administrative outcomes, and over \$1 billion in monetary recoveries. She is truly a DCIS legend who is deeply missed.

SA Eleanor Gailey passed away on July 28, 2023.



Nicholas Halko,
Assistant Regional Inspector
General
*Department of Health and Human
Services OIG*

Nicholas Halko joined the New York Regional office in 2002, ultimately serving as an Assistant Regional Inspector General. Prior to joining HHS-OIG, Nick worked in the private sector as a certified public accountant and certified fraud examiner. A great source of pride for Nick was his work examining Medicaid reimbursement claims by school districts, which resulted in a record-setting \$540 million settlement between New York and the Department of Justice. Outside of OIG, Nick had a genuine love for grilling and a keen interest in exploring new cooking techniques. Nick passed away on July 21, 2024, with his family by his side.



Wayne A. Herbert,
Auditor
Department of Energy OIG

Wayne Herbert proudly served his country for over 40 years. He served in the U.S. Navy as an Aviation Warfare Specialist for 23 years before retiring in 2003. Subsequent to his retirement from the Navy, he continued his education while working full time within the medical community, and he obtained his master's in business administration from the University of Tennessee. In February 2011, he began his career with the Department of Energy (DOE) OIG. Wayne started his career as an auditor within the General Audits Division before transferring into the OIG's Cyber and Financial Assessment Division. Wayne was a thorough auditor, who was well respected by his peers both within the DOE OIG and throughout his interaction with Agency officials. During his time with the DOE OIG, Wayne's work resulted in a number of report recommendations impacting DOE's cyber and IT contract operations. Wayne passed away on February 6, 2024. He will be remembered for his sense of humor, dedication to his family, and his positive outlook on life no matter what the situation. Even in his final days, he would remind his colleagues that every day was just another day in paradise.



Cassandra Lane,
Auditor
Department of Defense OIG

Cassandra possessed over 27 years of Federal audit experience. She started her audit career with the Department of Agriculture OIG and joined the DoD OIG's Kansas City field office in October 2005 where she remained until her recent passing. She admirably performed both financial and performance audits, including audits of Navy Fund Balance with Treasury processes and oversight projects. In addition, she was part of the original Marine Corps Oversight team that was established in 2008 and worked on the Transportation Command Financial Statement Oversight team since 2017. She also participated in audits of DoD systems including the Defense Cash Accountability System. Cassandra passed away on August 6, 2024, and will be dearly missed by her colleagues and family.



Irene Lindow,
Special Agent-in-Charge
Department of Labor OIG

Ms. Lindow graduated cum laude from the University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and an International Business Certificate. She earned her Juris Doctor cum laude from Loyola University Chicago School of Law and furthered her education at the Harvard Kennedy School and Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy. For over 25 years, Irene served with distinction at the U.S. Department of Labor. She began her career as a Criminal Investigator for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, where she conducted critical investigations related to private retirement and health plans. In 2003, she began working for the Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations-Labor Racketeering. She eventually rose to the position of Special Agent-in-Charge for the Great Lakes Region. In this role, Irene oversaw extensive investigations into organized crime, labor racketeering, union corruption, and health care fraud, among other areas. She was instrumental in combating COVID-19 pandemic-related fraud, building coalitions with stakeholders to address one of the largest frauds in American history. As a leader, her greatest concern was always for the agents, analysts, and other staff under her care. Ms. Lindow passed away on May 18, 2024.



Douglas Jeffrey Meloche,
Government Information Specialist
*Department of Housing and Urban
Development OIG*

Doug joined the Marine Corps in 1982 and served for 22 years, retiring as a Master Sargent. Upon retirement from the Marines in 2004, Doug began a 20-year career with the Federal Government—first with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) at the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in Gulfport, MS, in 2004; then with the USDA Forest Service in Atlanta, GA, in 2008; and since 2021 with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Inspector General (HUD OIG) as a Government Information Specialist. While with HUD OIG, Doug made an immediate and continuous impact on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) program through making it more efficient and transparent. His calm demeanor allowed him to excel in his interactions with the public and provide quality customer service. HUD OIG staff, and former colleagues at USDA, will remember him for how he always brought light into the room with him.



William “Buddy” Merrill,
Hotline Investigator
Department of Defense OIG

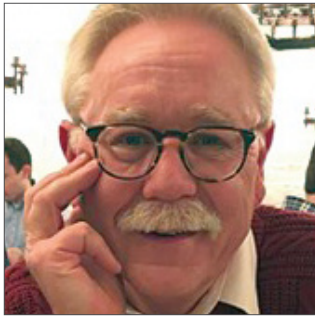
Buddy served as a Hotline Investigator with Administrative Investigation at the OIG from August 2005 until his passing June 21, 2023. Buddy received the Department of Defense Superior Civilian Service Medal in April 2023 for his devotion and impeccable dedication to the Hotline mission. Prior to his career with the DoD OIG, Buddy served in the U.S. Army for 30 years and retired March 1, 2005, as a Command Sergeant Major.

Buddy was preceded in death by his wife, Laurel Merrill (61). Buddy and Laurel were married for 42 years until her death June 26, 2019. They have two sons: William Merrill (Sonja) and Christopher Merrill (Lisa) and five grandchildren (Sebastian, Vanessa, Christian, Lily and Cedric). William “Buddy” Merrill passed away on June 21, 2023



Mary Llacer-Salcedo,
Foreign Service Auditor
*U.S. Agency for International
Development*

Mary Llacer-Salcedo joined USAID OIG in 2006 as a Foreign Service Auditor. She was passionate about USAID’s mission and oversight work, serving at posts in the Philippines, Afghanistan, Washington, DC, and most recently in Pretoria. Mary was a certified scuba diver and an avid cook who enjoyed sharing her culinary creations with others. She was strongly committed to family and church and dedicated a large part of her life to charitable work. Indeed, she was doing charity work in the Philippines when she passed away unexpectedly on January 6, 2024. Mary is survived by two daughters, Jacqueline Stewart and Erika Hathaway Stevermer, and four grandchildren—Cole, Sophia, Blake, and Olivia. She is dearly missed by her colleagues and will always be remembered as part of the USAID OIG family.



Thomas “Tom” James Seluzicki,
Manager
Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

Thomas “Tom” James Seluzicki worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs OIG for nearly 15 years. Tom first joined the OIG’s Office of Healthcare Inspections in 2009 before becoming a manager in the Office of Audits and Evaluations (OAE) in Baltimore, Maryland. Since 2016, he worked in OAE’s consolidated financial statements division. Prior to joining the federal service, Tom worked in public accounting, conducting audits, and completing litigation support assignments and internal control reviews. He graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic High School in 1977 and Towson University in 1982 with a degree in accounting. Tom spent his entire life in Baltimore, where he built a life as a devoted and loving husband, father, and grandfather. Tom loved his family, history, visiting museums, reading, and metal detecting. He is remembered as a helpful colleague and mentor who was committed to getting the job done, sharing a good story, and always offering encouragement to others. Tom passed away peacefully on February 13, 2024, at the age of 64 surrounded by his family.



Ryan X. Sheppard,
Auditor
Small Business Administration OIG

Ryan X. Sheppard served as an auditor at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) OIG for 8 years. He was a valued member of the Audits Division, where he began in the Credit Programs Group and, for the past 6 years, served as a quality assurance auditor in the Audit Operations Group. Ryan was also an active member of OIG’s Leadership Council.

Ryan’s willingness to go above and beyond, and his positive, can-do attitude continuously allowed him to excel. Deservedly, he was recognized for his contributions with an OIG Unsung Hero Award in 2021 and the IG Award for Excellence in 2022 and 2023. To honor Ryan’s memory and the tremendous impact he had on the organization, SBA OIG renamed the Inspector General’s “Unsung Hero Award” the “Ryan Sheppard – Unsung Hero Award.” Ryan truly embodied the spirit of this award with his selflessness and service.

Prior to joining SBA OIG, Ryan spent 16 years with the U.S. Postal Service OIG, where he led several complex audits with significant program efficiency and monetary findings.

Ryan passed away on June 9, 2024. He was an inspiration to everyone who knew him and will fondly be remembered for his dedication, hard work, and friendly personality. He was not just a colleague, but he was a bright light and a friend to those who knew him in the workplace.



27th Annual Award Ceremony

November 13, 2024

Acknowledgements



CIGIE Award Nomination Review Panels

A special thanks and recognition to the following OIG community members who volunteered to serve on this year's award nomination review panels.

Audit Awards for Excellence Panel

Kristen Bernard,
Department of Homeland Security OIG

Marcus Gullett,
Environmental Protection Agency OIG

Jacob Powell,
U.S. Capitol Police OIG

Michael Rich,
Architect of the Capitol OIG

Melanie Sorenson,
Department of the Interior OIG

Kilah White,
Department of Housing and Urban Development OIG

Inspections, Evaluations, Management, IT, and Special Act Awards for Excellence Panel

Toayoa Aldridge,
U.S. Agency for International Development OIG

John Daigh,
Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

Nancy House,
Department of Justice OIG

Eric Keehan,
Office of Personnel Management OIG

Jill Trynosky,
U.S. International Trade Commission OIG

Joseph Windrem,
Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction

Investigation Awards for Excellence Panel

James Adams,
General Services Administration OIG

James Ives,
Department of Defense OIG

Susan Ocampo,
Department of Transportation OIG

Michael Pritchard,
AmeriCorps OIG

Lewe Sessions,
Department of Energy OIG

Elise Woods,
Amtrak OIG

Multiple Categories Awards for Excellence Panel

Mindi Bush,
Defense Intelligence Agency OIG

Javier Inclan,
National Science Foundation OIG

Kathleen Liu,
Government Accountability Office OIG

Jeffrey McDermott,
Department of State OIG

Stacey Nahrwold,
Federal Housing Finance Agency OIG

Sheldon Shoemaker,
Small Business Administration OIG



